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House of Commons London SW1
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Parliamentary Human Rights Group

From Lord Avebury

October 26, 1990

Dear Douglas

I gather that a senior official from our Embassy in Jakarta went to Dili about a week ago, in company with other foreign diplomats, at the invitation of the Indonesian authorities. We have been hearing that the human rights situation there has been much worse recently, with terror squads operating, a number of disappearances, intimidation of schoolchildren and many arrests. It would be very interesting to know what inquiries our representative made about these matters, and what reports you have in general about arbitrary arrests and imprisonment in the territory, and other repressive measures by the Indonesian forces of occupation.

Will any joint demarche be made by the Twelve on human rights in East Timor as a result of information gathered by our diplomats during this visit? I certainly hope we shall be more robust in our condemnation of Indonesia violence and repression than the Italian spokesman for the Twelve, whose statement at the General Assembly I mentioned in my previous letter.

Yours

Lord

The Rt Hon Douglas Hurd MP,
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